GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2454
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2015
Welfare Schemes for Tea and Coffee Plantation Industry
Gopalakrishnan Shri R.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

a) the details of welfare schemes for tea and coffee plantation industry in the country;

b) whether the Government has reviewed these schemes/ policies and if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and

c) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to boost tea and coffee plantation sector of the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)
(a) & (b): Under the Plantation Labour Act, 1951, the plantation owners and estates are obliged to provide basic facilities in terms of shelter/ housing, health, sanitation and education to workers in such plantation industry. In addition, the Government implements, through the Tea Board and the Coffee Board, various programmes/activities for the welfare of workers in plantation industry. Under the 'Tea Development & Promotion Scheme' of Tea Board for the XIIth Plan period (2012-17), an outlay of Rs.50 crores is earmarked as part of the Human Resource Development (HRD) component for expenditure on welfare activities including health and hygiene, education, skill development etc. Under the 'Integrated Coffee Development Scheme' of Coffee Board implemented during 2012-17, the Coffee Board has an outlay of Rs 14 crores to provide stipends and financial assistance for education of children of labourers and tiny growers of coffee. These elements have been incorporated in the XIIth plan Schemes on the basis of review of XIth Plan Schemes.
(c): The Government, through the respective Commodity Boards, implements development and promotion schemes for the plantation industry in the plantation growing areas of the country. These include, inter alia, schemes for improvement in the production, productivity and quality as well as promotion of exports and value addition through provision of financial and technical assistance to growers and other stakeholders for new planting, replanting, rejuvenation, quality up-gradation and market promotion.
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